

(10)



Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets



(11) Publication number:

0 448 859 A3

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(21) Application number: 90305091.2

(51) Int. Cl.⁵: **A61B 17/22, A61M 25/01**

(22) Date of filing: 11.05.90

(30) Priority: 27.03.90 US 499726

(43) Date of publication of application:
02.10.91 Bulletin 91/40

(86) Designated Contracting States:
DE FR GB

(88) Date of deferred publication of the search report:
27.05.92 Bulletin 92/22

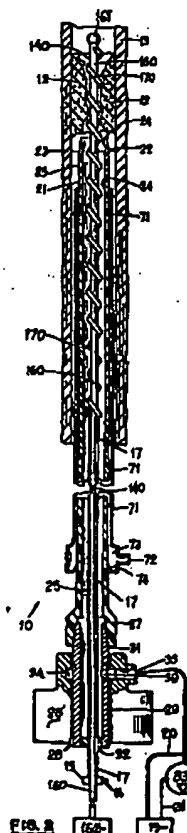
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(54) Guided atherectomy system.

(57) An atherectomy system for coring, ingesting and removing an obstruction material from within a patient's vessel having a flexible guide wire (140) defining a void for holding obstruction material during the atherectomy process and for accurately guiding a flexible catheter (21) in the vessel. Coupling means (27) at the proximal end of the flexible catheter for coupling it to drive means.



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which under Rule 45 of the European Patent Convention
shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent
proceedings, as the European search report

Application Number

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
X	EP-A-0 347 098 (SHIBER) * The whole document *	1-23,28 -37	A 61 B 17/22 A 61 M 25/01
A	* Column 9, lines 26-29; figure 15 *	27	
X	US-A-4 772 258 (MARANGONI) * Column 3, lines 12-15; figures 1-4 *	1,12-15 ,18,23- 26	
X	WD-A-9 000 371 (DEVICES) * Abstract *	1,2,12- 15	
X	EP-A-0 358 825 (SHIBER) * Column 3, lines 31-34 *	1	
A	WD-A-8 800 810 (RADISENSOR) * Page 4, paragraph 2; figures 1,2 *	17,28- 29	
A	EP-A-0 311 458 (BARD) * Column 9, line 50; figure 2 *	27	
A	US-A-4 867 156 (STACK) -/-		TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5) A 61 B A 61 M
INCOMPLETE SEARCH			
<p>The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the provisions of the European Patent Convention to such an extent that it is not possible to carry out a meaningful search into the state of the art on the basis of some of the claims</p> <p>Claims searched completely : Claims searched incompletely : Claims not searched : 38-39</p> <p>Reasons for the limitation of the search: Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or therapy (see art. 52(4) of the European Patent Convention).</p>			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 22-01-1992	Examiner BARTON S.A.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons @ : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	



CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ All claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid,
namely claims:
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions,
namely:

See sheet -B-

- ☒ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid,
namely claims:
- ☐ None of the further search fees has been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims,
namely claims:



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Application Number

EP 90 30 5091

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
A	US-A-4 898 575 (FISCHELL) -----		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)



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LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims 1-15, 30-37: Atherectomy system with biasing means.
2. Claims 1, 16-29: Compound guide-wire for atherectomy system.